

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 /032 W

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R 121000Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1519

UNCLAS ROME 8394

FOR: CU/WE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, IT(DONATE, UMBERTO)

SUBJ: FY-1975 INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM

REF: STATE 134402

1. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD DONATI BE OFFERED HIGHER PER DIEM OR FULL GRANT, NOR SHOULD IT BE SO MUCH AS HINTED THAT THIS MIGHT HAVE BEEN AVAILABLE. WHOLE IDEA IS TO SUPPLEMENT HIS CAPACITY TO TRAVEL ON PERSONAL FUNDS. HE WILL COVER ALL TRAVEL AND ANY ADDITIONAL NEEDS FROM OWN RESOURCES. DATES ACCEPTABLE.

2. WE ARE PUZZLED BY SUGGESTION WE INCUR ADDITIONAL COSTS ON THIS GRANT WHEN ALL OUR PLANNING, WHICH WE BELIEVE WE HAVE COMMUNICATED CLEARLY, LEADS IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION. FOR PRECISION AND BECAUSE WE NEED TOTAL SUPPORT AT US END OF THIS POLICY, WE NOTE THAT THE MISSION AIMS TO KEEP THE IV PROGRAM ALIVE AND VISIBLE WHEN IN FACT IT IS DWINDLING DAILY, THROUGH SUCH COST RISES AS REFLECTED IN URTEL. PRESENT ALLOCATION WILL BARELY COVER TWENTY FULL GRANTS FOR ALL OF ITALY, AT A TIME WHEN WE NEED GREATLY INCREASED PROGRAM. ENTIRE THRUST OF IV PROGRAM WILL BE TO ENCOURAGE JOINT FINANCING IN ALL GRANTS, SO AS AT LEAST TO DOUBLE OR CAPACITY. MEANWHILE FULBRIGHT IS GEARING ITSELF TO HEIGHTENED QUALITY, AFTER SEVEN YEARS IN WHICH THE PROGRAM HAS HEROICALLY STRETCHED ITSELF TO MAINTAIN VISIBILITY, BUT PAID THE PRICE.VOLPE

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